

# **Church of St. Laurence Magazine**

Parish including Birchley Heath, Ansley Common  
Ansley Village, Church End

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## EDITORIAL October, 2003

As I write this it's just a month now since we moved into Ansley Vicarage and barely two weeks since my licensing service made me your vicar. So much has happened in that short time, but I think we are beginning to find our feet, get the house sorted, get to know our way around and begin to get to know you. ('Our', by the way, is my wife Pauline, our son Tom and our pets - three chickens, a leopard gecko, a tarantula - and me!)

I would like to start by thanking you for your wonderful welcome, for all your gifts, cards and prayers and indeed for everything you are doing to help us feel at home. Thank you especially for the thought and hard work put into the licensing service on August 31.

It has been most encouraging to arrive at such an exciting time in the life of the church. I can only congratulate you for all the hard work, energy, enthusiasm, care and giving that has gone into the prayer, planning and preparation for the new Church Room. May it be a place where people find good food, great friendship and - most important of all - love and joy in abundance.

I am hoping to meet as many people as possible so I shall be delighted to visit any club or organisation either to speak or simply say 'Hallo'. Every other month I will try to spend a full day in one particular part of the parish. I shall be starting with the Common on Wednesday 8 October beginning with a short service at St. John's at 9a.m. to which all are welcome. After that I will be around until 3p.m. and then from 7-9. If you live there and would appreciate a visit or can even offer tea, coffee or a light lunch I would be most grateful.

I will try and get out and about as much as I can but will try to be in and available (except on Sunday and Friday-my Day Off) between 8.30 a.m. and 10 a.m. or 5p.m. and 7p.m.. Or simply leave a message on the ansaphone and I'll get back to you as soon as I can.

Finally a big thank you to Marie for writing the editorial while there has not been a vicar here. No way can I provide you with such delightful thoughts for every season of the year so I very much hope this will continue.

Your friend and Vicar,

Peter

St John's Hall Ansley Common Services 10.30 a.m.  
 Oct 12<sup>th</sup> Harvest. Family service.  
 Oct 26<sup>th</sup> Trinity 18 Holy Communion.

St. Laurence's Church services 10.30 a.m. & 6.30. p.m.  
 Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> Trinity 15 a.m. All Age Worship with the Worship Team.  
 p.m. BCP Holy Communion.  
 Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> Harvest 8.00 a.m. BCP said Holy Communion  
 a.m. Holy Communion. & presentation of baskets  
 p.m. Evensong.  
 Oct 19<sup>th</sup> Trinity 17 a.m. All Age Worship with the Worship Team.  
 p.m. Holy Communion.  
 Oct 26<sup>th</sup> Bible Sunday a.m. The Lord is Here Communion.  
 p.m. Evensong.

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> Ansley Common Fellowship (venue phone 02476 394114)  
 Mondays 7 p.m. Links group meet. ( not half term week) Village Church Hall  
 Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> 9.30 a.m. Harvest Morning Prayer In the Village Church Hall.  
 The Senior Citizens Bring & Buy follows, everyone is welcome.  
 Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> The Prayer group meets at 10 Nuthurst Cres. at 2 p.m.  
 Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday Fellowship at 10 Nuthurst Cres. at 7.30 .p.m  
 Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> 1 p.m. Wedding.  
 Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> 1 - 4 p.m. Church Open.  
 Monday 13<sup>th</sup> 9.30 a.m. School Service in Church.  
 Monday 13<sup>th</sup> 7.30 p.m. Harvest Sale. Village Church Hall.  
 Wednesday 7.30 p.m. Harvest Supper. Village Church Hall.

### **Harvest**

This annual event commences with decorating the Church on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> from 2.00 p.m. onwards and again from 9.30 on Saturday morning. All gifts of flowers and produce will be most welcome. The Church will be open from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and light refreshments will be served.

The Sunday services are as usual and will all be conducted by the vicar.

8.a.m. Holy Communion.

10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. Baskets will be presented at the alter.

6.30 p.m. Festival Evensong.

On Monday Nursery Hill School will have their service in Church to which everyone is welcome. After, all the produce is taken from the Church to the Church Hall ready for the sale and the church cleaned. Anyone help will be much appreciated.

At 7 30 p.m. Norman will auction all the produce and there will be light refreshments half way. This is a fun evening and everyone is most welcome.

The Senior Citizens will be having their Harvest service at 9.30 on Tuesday followed by a bring and buy.

Harvest celebrations are completed with the **Supper**.

### **Ansley Common- Invitations Wanted**

The Vicar wishes to spend the 8<sup>th</sup> October in the Common, commencing with a short service at the Hall at 9 a.m. and remain there until 3 p.m. and again in the evening from 7 – 9 p.m. He will visit anyone who would welcome a visit, and appreciate a lunch and a few coffees. Please contact the vicar with your invitations.



### **The Vicarage garden**

After 6 year of neglect this is in a sorry state if you can help in any way please turn up at the vicarage with your tools at any time between 9 a.m. and dark on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> Sept. Monday 29<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct. Many jobs need to be done, from clearing nettles to cleaning paths from digging to pruning etc. Please don't wait to be asked all help will be most appreciated. Drinks will be provided.

### **From the Registers. -Baptism.**

Isabel Mason was baptised on 31<sup>st</sup> August by Rev. John Law. It was the last service of the interregnum. Isabelle was so very good and all the younger children gathered near to the font so that they could all see, including her brother Tom.

### **Thanks**

On Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September Jane Kimberley with her pupils gave a wonderful flute concert which was enjoyed by all who attended. A total of £160. was raised from the donations which have been divided as follows £70 to the Building Fund, £70 to the Church Yard Fund and £20 to the General Fund. To those pupils starting college this month we send our very best wishes for their future.

On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> St. John's congregation organised a jumble sale in the hall and raised £155 towards the kitchen floor repairs. This means they are now over half way to the total required to carry out this work. Well done.

### **The end of August 2003.**

It must be many years, if ever, since Ansley Church has seen three big events in such a short space of time.

Through the hard work and support of so many people all pulling together these events were wonderful. The list of tasks undertaken by so many is endless. To everyone who helped or supported in any way **THANK YOU**.

#### **1. New Room.**

The work was finished on time and the keys were handed over on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August The new chairs arrived on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and it was all clean and tidy just in time for the Flower Festival. The building was a wonderful asset to the events of the end of August. And everyone has given favourable comments. The Dedication on the 23<sup>rd</sup> led by the Arch Deacon was very appropriate for the occasion. The prayers and thoughts expressed, thanked God for the work of all who had been involved in its planning, construction and the fundraising, and asked Gods blessing on all that the room will mean to the community, and all those who visit the Church Yard.

#### **2. Flower Festival.**

This was a very happy occasion, enjoyed by many. The weather was kind and the flowers kept very well, and, many were used for the following weekend. Again this year we made another financial record for the festival £1818.00. This will be divided as in past years between The Building Fund 50%, The Acorn Children's Hospice and the Nuneaton Hospital League of Friends 25% each, with the presentations being made at the harvest services.

#### **3. The Licensing of Rev Peter Allan**

The support for this service was commented on by so many, There was a lovely letter sent from the Trunch Group saying that they appreciated all the effort and hard work that everyone put into the event especially the catering. This is a thank you from everyone to all who supported, helped and provided from Arley and Ansley for this wonderful occasion. A quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung in 39 minutes in honour of the occasion. Kat Male Treble, Graham Latham No2, Helen Hereschell No3, Andy Robinson No4, Quentin Howell No5 (Conducting) Peter Bates Tenor. Kim & John Atkins, John Bufton and Doreen King joined the band after the service.

As the Parish Council have nothing to put in the magazine this month, it seems saying September was my last letter was a little premature, and I can share a poem which I wrote for the opening of the new room and a few other thoughts:

'Hooray, Hooray, Hooray, at last,  
The building is built, the loos are passed.,  
The cobwebs have gone, lurking spiders too,  
No leaves blowing in, or damp or dew.

That toilet was dire and damp and cold,  
You needed to be either desperate or bold.  
People asked is there a toilet here?  
Apologetically we directed them there.

All that is over with brand new building and loo.  
A place you can linger and not rush through.  
A place we are now proud to behold.  
Spending a penny? No, more like going for gold.'

We were on the M6 Motorway recently on the way to Coventry when the traffic came to a halt and the other carriageway was completely empty of cars. It was a case where you felt entirely helpless as nothing was moving. I have resisted having a mobile 'phone but recently purchased one and was glad to be able to telephone our son and let him know the situation. You know how I have said before how I love 'people watching', well this was a prime opportunity, as people started to leave their cars and wander over to the other carriageway to see if they could see what was happening. I might say that most of them were men and the women patiently waited in the cars, but the most frightening moment was when the traffic started to move on the other carriageway, starting with police motorbikes and Range Rovers followed by the traffic which seemed so fast I was quite startled, but of course that was because we were standing still. However, after 1.1/2 hours we were on our way, and fortunately nobody had been hurt as a man was talked down from a bridge.

Well, we have seen the Swallows leave for their winter home but as we say goodbye to these beautiful little birds, the scenery has taken on an Autumn hue with the trees turning golden, bronze and pale yellow. We saw a Chestnut tree and underneath were lots and lots of furry chestnuts. It was a shame because they were not ripe and will need much more time. The Conkers are ready, however, and so begins the time of the year when grown men turn back into boys as they eagerly collect them.

This is a beautiful time of the year, so enjoy the changing, colourful scene, as the days shorten, but also the beautiful nights with bright moon and stars.

Marie Cove